



## The School That Never Needs a Bell

Getting their children off to school is no problem for parents whose sons and daughters attend the model school at Miraflores in La Paz, Bolivia, attached to the Higher Teacher Training Institute. It is run, with advice from experts from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, on the premise that "a child's interest in learning is natural." The children have such a thirst for knowledge that no bell is needed to summon them to class in the morn-

ings. Indeed, the school, which opened in 1944 has never had a bell. The teaching methods developed here are spreading to other schools; in one of them, children have been taught to read and write within 50 to 60 days. The picture above shows a mathematics class at the Miraflores school with the instructor, Maria Alenda Zegada (at right) explaining geometrical abstractions with the use of a prop showing architecture of Egyptian and pre-Columbian civilizations.

## LONDON GIRL WINS CONTEST

A 12-year-old London girl, in Canada only three months, by using "Scamp" the name of two dogs she had as pets in answer to a nation-wide "Name the Lassie Pup" contest, has won herself a pup, a free trip to the Canadian National Exhibition, and \$200, an automatic washer for her mother and a \$200 wardrobe for her father.

### Tense Week-end

Patricia Ann, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Brown, 6834 Dundas, formerly of Concomely, Yorkshire, England, received word last Friday that she was one of the contest's 20 Ontario winners. She had to answer the question "What is another name for an Indian wigwam?" ... to which she wired back "teepee." She and her mother were to go to Fergus for the Highland games, but she stayed glued to the telephone all week-end. The reply came Monday telling her that she was first prize winner. She will pick up the pup at the "Ex" grandstand next week.

### To 'Ex Monday

Next Monday Patricia and her mother fly to Toronto, guests of Colgate-Palmolive, contest sponsors, for four days. Mr. Brown, a barber and trumpet player by trade, will not go with them, but will probably start building a kennel for the family's new addition. Patricia hopes to exercise Scamp in the 30-foot yard behind their apartment, as well as in Queen's Park, which is not far away.

She and her family feel very much at home in London. Mr. Brown says it is a clean city, and so many of the streets have names like those in London, England. "The only thing you have not got here," he said, "is Buckingham Palace, and the changing of the guard."

Editor's Note: — The young girl mentioned above is the grand-daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Joe Brown of Kinsella and niece of Mrs. O. Olsenberg and Mrs. Bruce Davis.

Kinsella district joins in congratulations.

## Card of Thanks

I wish to express my sincere thanks for the many cards, letters, flowers and visits I received while in the hospital and after I came home. Your thoughtfulness was very much appreciated.

—Jeanette.

## Card of Thanks

We would like to thank all those who helped check the fire on our premises when the school barn burnt.

R. E. and C. F. Jones.

## Jarrow News

Mrs. G. Comley spent the week-end in Edmonton with her daughter and family, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Muller.

Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Efford and family were visitors at the C. Sonett home on Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Trichael and family of Edmonton spent the week-end with their mother.

Miss Noreen Skori spent the week-end with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Ted Skori.

Mr. and Mrs. Harold Smith and family of Edmonton visited with his brother and family, Mr. and Mrs. Tobe Smith over the week-end.

Mr. and Mrs. Jamieson have had as week-end visitors Mr. and Mrs. Albert Woids and daughters and Mrs. Mary Lind of Edmonton and Mrs. Jamieson's brother, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Larson.

The sympathy of the district is extended to the Jamieson family on the death of their nephew, Mr. Herb Jamieson of Lethbridge.

Mr. and Mrs. C. Sonett and boys spent Sunday in Edmonton.

School opened on Tuesday at the Batts, Jarrow and Metropolitan schools with Mrs. B. Meekins, Mrs. Lakness and Mrs. Comley teaching at the respective schools.

## VIKING WINS OWN TOURNAMENT

(From The Viking News)

On Sunday, the Viking Shamrocks proved the best of four teams at a tournament held at the local ball park. In the first game, Eric Laford pitched fine ball to lead the Shamrocks to a 4-2 win over Wainwright. The second set-win between Vermilion and Sedgewick was a real battle, Sedgewick advancing to the final against Viking by edging Vermilion in extra innings. Ed Kassian of Vegreville, member of the Pentition V's Olympic hockey champs, handled the pitching chores for Viking in the final which Viking won 7-1. A midnight frolic at night ended an enjoyable day.

## CAR BINGO AT VERMILION SEPTEMBER 17th

A snappy Meteor V-8 is the big prize at the Vermilion Curling Club's next car bingo to be held on Saturday, September 17 at 9:15 p.m.

Besides the car there are eleven other good prizes. Admission is \$2.00, extra cards two for \$1.00.

## Echo-Rodino News

Dave Stecyk has arrived back from Chisholm where he has been employed at the mill during the summer.

There will be an Open-Air dance on the Rodino grounds on September 9. Regular admission. Lunch free.

Dorothy Whitten is spending a week with her cousin, Phyllis Tessman.

Hollar and Beckett have made a start, threshing some early grain this week.

A few youngsters will be making their first trip to school on Tuesday. Those from this district are Wendy Daniel, Danny Thomas, Bernard Whitten, Carol Whitten, Marvin Crouse and Diane Garvie. Good luck to our beginners.

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. E. Hollar on the birth of a son, Jesse Woodstone.

Miss Shirley Nash is now employed in the Dominion Cafe in Viking.

Mr. Wayne Hinicker of Chisholm is visiting with E. Hollar.

Mr. and Mrs. John Vandervelde and children of Chisholm spent the week-end here visiting friends and relatives.

Vance Shippy is the bus driver on the new school route, transporting the youngsters from Echo district to Albert school.

The Irma Times is the best advertising medium possible. Our correspondents cover every part of the district. Merchants or business places who do not use The Times columns are losing a fine opportunity to keep paper "that is read in every their weekly messages in this home in the trading area."



LOST—1 section of hose 12 ft. long with large brass coupling on one end, north-west of Irma.—P. E. Jones Co. 9p

FOR SALE—quantity of year-old hens, heavy type, price \$1.00 each. Apply Frank Wyand. 9-16c

SELLING — OCM double barman's bike, like new. Apply Joe Rohrer, Irma. 2-9

## 42 Beginners Enroll At Irma School

The Irma school bell rang once more on the morning of Sept. 6 and a record enrollment of 300 children answered its call. There are 42 beginners and an equally good representation in all the other departments.

The teaching staff this year is as follows:

Mr. D. H. Gunn, principal.  
Miss L. Toucher, high school.  
Mrs. J. Ballentine, grade IX.  
Mr. A. Ronaghan, grade 7-8.  
Mrs. A. Murray, grade 6.  
Mrs. M. Millar, grade 5.  
Mrs. E. Prosser, grade 4.  
Mrs. M. Chase, grade 3.  
Mrs. F. Clumstad, grade 2.  
Mrs. G. Fischer, grade 1.  
Mrs. A. D. Glasgow, music.

## WITH THE District Agriculturist

By J. S. Duncan

### Insects in Granaries

There have been a few cases of insects in stored grain being found by farmers checking their granaries just recently. The most common insects have been the mites, but these have also been some Fungus Beetles. These insects can cause trouble and are likely in some granaries which have not been checked. The mites are very small, sandy colored insects which may be difficult to see at first. The Fungus Beetles are about one sixteenth of an inch long, usually a reddish color. For a severe infestation it may be best to fumigate the grain but if the grain is tough it will have to be moved also. Pick up a copy of the bulletin "Control of Insects in Stored Grain" from my office.

### Best on Oats

Many fields of oats are heavily rusted this fall, in some cases late oats have not filled properly and are light because of the rust. One of the most common questions is whether the straw will be all right for feed. There will not be much feed value in this heavily rusted straw and it may not be very palatable to stock. For this reason anyone requiring straw for feed should try to get some which is not rusted, if possible.

### Buildings and Equipment

#### For Beef Cattle

A new series of plans for these buildings and equipment have just been received. Anyone considering new-shelters or feeders for his cattle might find it worthwhile to get one of the catalogues of plans from my office and then request any plans he wanted.

#### Read Canary Grass

This is one of the best grasses for use on land which floods. A limited quantity is available through the Department of Agriculture for late fall seeding. This grass is not alkali resistant but does well on wet land. Anyone interested should get in touch with me soon.

## Glen-Coa Gleanings

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Reitan of Edmonton with their two little ones were week-end guests of Mr. and Mrs. M. I. Reitan.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Larson and their small daughters of Winnipeg made a brief visit recently with the T. Larson family.

Miss Avis Satre spent last week-end with her mother at Wainwright hospital who underwent an operation recently. Also the Rev. Curtis Satre arrived from Vancouver last Sunday to visit a few days with his mother recently.

The Rev. Heuer of the British and Foreign Bible Society gave an interesting address at Sharon last Sunday evening on his recent visit to England on behalf of the Society. The film of his travels was very beautiful and one realized why it was entitled "This Other Eden."

TRY A TIMES WANT AD

## EASTERLY ECHOES

Congratulations to Irene Barton and Ron Taylor who were married in Wainwright on Saturday.

This week marked another milestone in the lives of several of our younger citizens. Beginning school were Wayne Burtons, Yvonne Crab, Brian Veer, Lorne Worthing, Kenny Stefanikyn, Helen Nemmo and Ruth Okham.

On Thursday last the Battle River W.I. met at the home of Mrs. Dempsey.

William Holt and daughter Carol and Mr. J. Holt and family of Kamloops, have been visiting relatives and friends in the district.

Mrs. Kurtz and Patsy and Sarah Holt have left the home of their parents and returned to Michigan.

## Kinsella News

The sympathy of the community is extended to the relatives of the late Mr. Howard Pyke who passed away on Wednesday, August 31.

Mrs. Frank Murray spent a few days last week at the home of her brother and sister-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. G. Comley, south of Jarrow.

Mr. and Mrs. R. Steele of Edmonton and Mr. and Mrs. R. Williamson of Vancouver were recent visitors at the home of Mrs. R. Cormack.

The Wilson Construction work on the Kinsella part of the highway has been completed. Mr. and Mrs. A. Wilson and family have moved to Wetsaskwin.

Miss Pearl Pederson has accepted a position with Dr. Beatrix Katsch, dentist, in Viking.

Mr. A. Brower of Viking was the lucky ticket holder in the draw for the shot gun at the dance held here on Friday night.

Mr. E. Powell and son Dick of Edmonton were visiting Mr. Powell's parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. Powell during the week-end.

Mr. Wilfrid Long of Edmonton was also visiting his parents here.

Mr. and Mrs. C. Smogard of Edmonton were the holiday week-end guests of Mr. and Mrs. E. Simmons.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Walker and family of Irma, Mr. and Mrs. Alton and family of Wainwright, and Mrs. B. Steele and boys of Fabyan and Mr. Walker, Sr. of Calgary were Sunday visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Murray Walker.

Mr. Frank Alcock was a recent visitor to the city.

Mr. and Mrs. Allan Barker and family spent the holiday week-end with relatives at Ponoka.

Mrs. L. Townsend of Mannville visited her mother Mrs. S. Juett during last week.

Mr. and Mrs. E. Scott and family who have been residing in the Peace River district, are now living on a farm north of town.

Mr. and Mrs. C. Almgren of Viking spent the week-end at the home of Mrs. Almgren's mother, Mrs. R. Cormack.

Mr. and Mrs. W. Hewlett and Mr. and Mrs. Len Black of Edmonton were visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. W. Hughes for the week-end.

Mrs. J. W. Wilkinson and family have returned home from Edmonton where they spent a few weeks with Mr. and Mrs. Wilkinson, Sr.

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Orr of Blenheim, Ont., and Mr. and Mrs. C. Larson of Calgary were Sunday visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. Horneck.

## CHURCH SERVICES

SHARON LUTHERAN  
Sunday, September 11

Sunday School and Bible Class 10 a.m.

Divine Worship 11 a.m.

L. Knudson, Pastor.

## Southern Sayings

Nettie Cairns arrived home on Monday evening from Wainwright hospital after working there for the past two months.

Bryan Cressy suffered a badly fractured arm last Thursday in the power binder.

Mrs. Phil Holt was visiting at the home of Eddie Jackson last Friday, along with Mrs. A. C. Archibald and Vivian.

Garth Tomlinson was home for the long week-end. For a past-time he did a little stocking.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Jackson and boys of Edmonton motored down last Thursday, Albert returning home on Friday, Beverly and boys staying until Monday.

Next W.I. meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. E. Jackson on September 15. Hostesses, Mrs. E. Jackson and Mrs. Timholm. Roll Call, Interesting Item on the Golden Jubilee. Raffle, Mrs. E. Jackson. Topic, Canadian Industry and Agriculture, Mrs. E. Tomlinson. Program Mrs. Cairns. Donation to the Alberta Protection Home for Children in memory of Bruce Larson from Harry, Bernie Long and family.

## KIEFER'S SHOWS at IRMA

Friday, Sept. 9  
"STRATEGIC AIR COMMAND"

Another great picture filmed in Vista-vision and Technicolor.

Starring June Allyson and Jimmy Stewart.

2 Shows—7 and 9 p.m.

Advanced Admission

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EDMONTON — ALBERTA

## IRMA TIMES

MRS. H. RILEY, Local Editor

Phone 514

Published every Friday by the Times Publishers, Irma, Alberta. Subscription Rates \$1.50 per year in advance. Authorized as Second Class Mail, Post Office Department, Ottawa.

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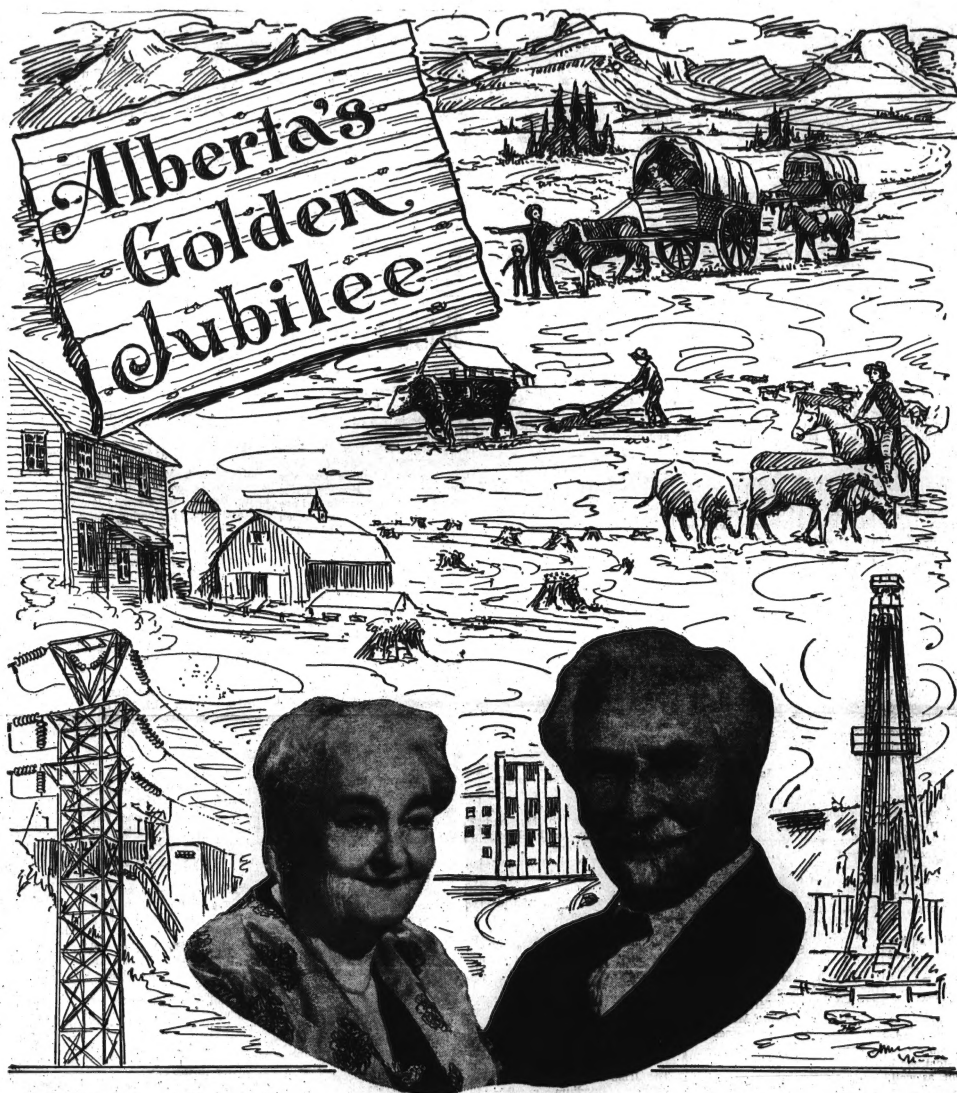
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39r2

Wainwright

People in B.C. eat more ice cream and drink less milk than Canadians in any other province while people in Quebec drink the most milk and eat the least ice cream.

In the most recent year of record, 1952, there were 20,368 companies in Canada that operated at a loss and 35,228 that operated at a profit.



VIKING NEWS Printers

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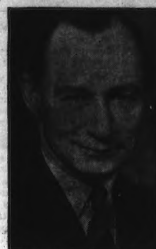


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- 1953 METEOR FORDOR, Radio, Heater

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Advertising Stimulates Trade

## NWU Ltd. Completes 31 Years of Natural Gas Service



D. K. Yorath, General Mgr.

Since 1923, Northwestern Utilities, Limited has been supplying natural gas to communities in central Alberta. Today their transmission and distribution system, consisting of over 1,500 miles of pipe, services the City of Edmonton and 31 other communities in the central Alberta area with natural gas. The needs of the system were originally served from the Viking-Kinsella field, 80 miles east of Edmonton. The supply of natural gas from this field has been augmented in the past few years as eight additional fields have been tied-in to the system. Oilfield solution or casing gas as it is called, is now obtained, from the Leduc-

Woodbend, Bonnie Glen, Wizard Lake, Glen Park, and Asotin Fields. Dry gas is being taken from the Fairchild-Bon Accord, Fort Saskatchewan and Wildmere Fields as well as the Viking-Kinsella field which supplied 67 per cent of the Company's 1954 requirements.

Natural gas reserves available to the Company from these nine fields has been estimated at 1,200,000,000,000 cubic feet. This is about 40 times the present annual consumption of the Company's system.

Mr. D. K. Yorath, General Manager of the Company, points to the phenomenal increase in the consumption of natural gas during Alberta's "boom years" since 1947. During this period, states Mr. Yorath, the number of customers on Northwestern's system has more than doubled and consumption of gas has more than tripled. In 1954, the Annual Report of the Company showed a consumption increase of 29 per cent over the previous year's figure. The largest increase took place in the industrial classification with sales of 11 billion cubic feet, an increase of 53 per cent over 1953. Domestic sales of 12 billion cubic feet and commercial sales of 10 billion cubic feet were 18 per cent and 21 per cent higher respectively than the previous year. During this period, the number of customers increased by 4,656 to a total of 60,354. Mr. D. K. Yorath noted that NWU Ltd. distributed more gas than any other Company in Canada last year.

NWU Ltd., with headquarters at Edmonton, has an operating and maintenance permanent staff of 413 with the number of persons employed during the construction season often bringing the total to over 1,000. The Company operates a fleet of 162 motor vehicles with 56 mobile FM short-wave radios and 11 fixed radio stations connecting the various operating points on their system.

In 1955, the Company will spend an estimated 2½ million dollars on their capital program. Additional office facilities and a larger auditorium for cooking school demonstrations and other activities will be incorporated into a new building now under construction at 105 Avenue and 113 St., Edmonton.



By  
Dr. F. I. Gossney,  
Director,  
Live Elevators Farm Service,  
Winnipeg, Manitoba.

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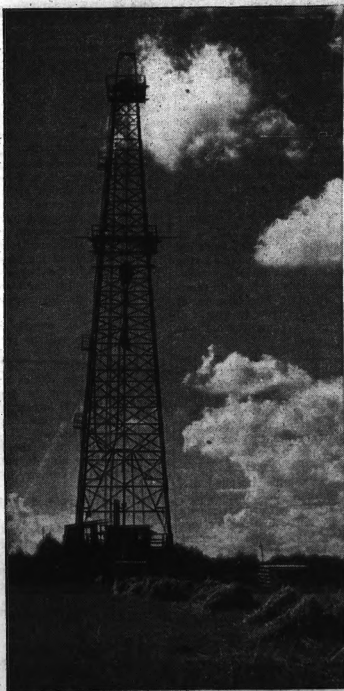
### HARVEST FOR "TOP QUALITY" GRAIN

High quality is the key that will enable Canada to maintain its present enviable position in the grain markets of the world. There is still a need and a demand for top quality wheat, and other grains. With good crops in prospect, it is more important than ever this year for western farmers to avoid losses in grain quality and yield through the use of faulty and careless harvesting methods.

**Time of Harvesting.** It is a well established fact that the cutting of grain before it is ripe means a sacrifice of both yield and quality. Just because the combine is ready to go, is no reason why any farmer should "beat the gun" and start harvesting before the grain crops are fully mature. It should be remembered that, according to government grain-grading regulations, No. 1 Northern wheat will be graded No. 2 Northern if it carries more than 1 per cent of green kernels.

**Avoid Harvest Losses.** A high-grade standing grain crop can be ruined by the use of faulty or careless harvesting methods. Inefficient or improper combining or threshing can be, and very often is, responsible for reducing the quality (the grade) of many grain crops. In most areas of Western Canada, field stands of all cereal crops are good this year. If the proper care is taken in harvesting them they should produce "top quality" grain. Splitting of wheat, peeling and breaking of barley, and cracking of flaxseed can be eliminated almost completely if farmers and combine operators will only take the time and the care to see to it that their combines or threshing machines are properly adjusted for "quality" grain production. Slow cylinder speeds, and keeping cylinder concaves, sieves and wind properly adjusted at all times will result in the minimum amount of kernel damage.

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and the B of M  
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The Bank of Montreal has been part and parcel of Alberta's history since it opened its first small office in Calgary almost 70 years ago, and has shared in the growth and development of the province by expanding its service to meet the ever-increasing banking needs of its people. Today the B of M serves Albertans at 70 branches strategically located throughout the province.

On the occasion of Alberta's golden anniversary, Canada's first bank salutes the people of this proud province. May they continue to progress and prosper for years to come.

**BANK OF MONTREAL**  
Canada's First Bank

## RURAL ELECTRIFICATION IN ALBERTA

One of Alberta's most striking success stories is that of Rural Electrification. Since the end of the war when very few farms in the province had central station electric power, the expansion of the Rural Electrification program has been tremendous. At December 31, 1954, there were 30,596 farms electrified in Alberta. Of this total 22,591 are served by Calgary Power Ltd. The year 1954 was another one of achievement with 6,323 farms being connected, in spite of the wet spring, summer and early fall, which delayed construction of rural lines.

A goal of 5,000 electrified farms has been set for 1955. This year should see the expansion of farm electrification into many corners of the province which hitherto have been too remote from the lines of the interconnected systems to expect electricity.

Eventually it is hoped that over 66,000 of the province's 84,315 farms will receive electrical service.

At the end of 1954 a total of 335 rural electrification associations had been organized. These associations are organized groups of farmers who live in the same area who all want to have electric service on their farms. They secure an estimate of the cost of having lines constructed in their area from the power company. This estimate is based on cost. The power company makes no profits on the erection of rural lines. Then they divide this cost evenly among themselves. If any farmers need financial assistance he can borrow money from the provincial government. To keep the cost down many farmers assist the power companies in the actual construction.

As soon as the lines are built the value of the farm on the real

## SCIENCE IN YOUR LIFE

**The "Whole" Patient**  
Our life span is 30 years longer today than it was 75 years ago, thanks partly to the antibiotic drugs. Now, by combining antibiotics with vitamins and practicing the ages-old concept of treating the "whole" patient and not just his disease, science has put new wonder in the wonder drugs.

Just how long you lay in a sick-bed suffering from a severe infection depends on your body's ability to fight its way back to normal. Reinforced by antibiotics, your body marshals its entire resources to beat back illness and invading bacteria.

These invading bacteria, and sometimes the germ-killing antibiotics, throw your body's normal functions out of kilter. Your body's nutritional needs are altered and often you cannot eat enough of the right foods to aid your body.

Thus, you suffer a nutritional deficiency which may extend your recovery period long after the infection has been licked. According to Dr. Felix Marti-Ibanez in the medical journal *Antibiotic Medicine*, modern science now has the means to attack both the infection and the vitamin deficiency. He reports that a combination of vitamins and antibiotics in a single dosage form such as Tetracycline-SF or Terramycin-SF gives physicians a weapon to treat the "whole" patient and thus shorten his stay in the sickbed.

estate market increases by more than the cost of construction. This co-operative enterprise could never have been successful without the complete co-operation of the farmer, the power companies, the Alberta Power Commission and the financial assistance from the Government.

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## Local News

Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Charter have returned to Irma after spending a week in the city with Mr. and Mrs. Philip Charter and family.

A shower of rain on Tuesday night has slowed down harvesting activities at time of writing. However, the crops seem to be well in hand and the weather is showing signs of returning to its best behavior once more.

Irma looked wonderfully good to us when we came home last week after three months absence. There were signs of progress everywhere. New houses had been built, excavations for water and sewer nearly completed, a big reservoir under construction and fine crops and gardens on every hand.

Billy Maeson and Arnold Enger have returned to Irma to get ready for another year at the University of Alberta. Both boys have been employed at McLennan for the summer months.

Visitors with the Barber families during the past week included Mr. Lloyd Brownlee of Shawville, Quebec, Mr. Clifford Brownlee and Jerry of Hairy Hill, Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Barber and family of Innisfree and Mr. and Mrs. Bill Barber and family from the air force camp at Cold Lake.

Mr. and Mrs. Whiston Wynd and of Arcold, Sask., visited early this week at the home of Mr. and Mrs. V. Hutchinson.

Recent visitors at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. Pond were Mrs. Pond's mother and sister, Mrs. Fong and Mrs. Soo of New Westminster.

Further donations in memory

of the late Bruce Larson have been made to the WMS from Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Simmermon; to the Cancer Fund from Mr. and Mrs. Harley Burs; to the Irma United Church from Mr. and Mrs. H. Meekins and Mrs. L. A. Hager.

At noon on Saturday, the fire siren sounded and the volunteer fire brigade went north down Main Street to the old school barn which was burning briskly. It was too late for any possible chance of saving the barn, but work was found for the volunteers in extinguishing some shingles which caught fire on the roofs of one or two houses opposite the barn. A hole was burned in a tent on the C. P. Jones property but fortunately no other damage resulted from the blaze. The fire is believed to have been caused by children who had been playing in the building.

Mr. and Mrs. Bryan Targett of Calgary visited with the former's parents here over the holiday week-end.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Ronaghan and children have returned from a holiday at Creston, B.C.

Miss Mildred Smith of Calgary is an Irma visitor this week at the home of her sister, Mrs. W. J. Matthews.

Mrs. J. Fenton of Wainwright was among those who attended the combined Flower Service and Jubilee Service at the Irma United Church on Sunday last.

Mr. and Mrs. J. McCallum of Vancouver are visiting here with Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Hubman and family. Mrs. McCallum is a niece of Mr. Hubman.

Mrs. J. C. Savard and Mrs. R. O. Larson were Edmonton visitors this week.

Mr. Bruce Campbell of Wembley, Alta., is now at Irma and has accepted a position with the Irma Food Market.

Miss Shirley Brown of Edmonton spent the long week-end here at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. S. M. Brown.

Mr. Halmrast said, these farmers shouldn't be trying to grow grain crops. Maybe the land is better suited to sheep raising. The job of the commission is to find out.

Once the solution is found, the commission will ask farmers to co-operate. The procedure might be to set up a "controlled area," with the commission of experts directing farming operations. This would be similar to the control the province has over the special areas, but it would require the consent of residents.

In dry areas, the commission might decide to employ rain-making methods. In areas which are hailed all year after year, recently-developed hail-suppression methods might be recommended by the commission.

The commission also would conduct surveys before any new homestead areas are opened up to settlers. Mr. Halmrast said surveys of such areas have been made before, but the commission would be able to conduct a more complete study. The commission also could investigate areas proposed for irrigation development.

The government put strong provisions in the bill to take care of certain circumstances. If an area is not paying its taxes, the government can step in, with the consent of a municipality, and set up a controlled area.

In a controlled area, the land would be put to the use deemed best by the commission.

Where too many farmers are trying to live off a deficient area, the commission might arrange to move some of them. This, of course, would have to be done with the consent of the farmer. Mr. Halmrast said an important phase of the program will be to sell the farmers on the idea of the commission's work. He is confident most of them will buy it.

He couldn't say exactly when the commission will be set up, but said it will be headed by the best soils expert the province can obtain. Other members will represent the department of lands and forests, municipal affairs and the Alberta Power Commission.

For special studies, the commission will be able to call in any experts it requires, to act as advisers.

Mr. Halmrast pointed out it is impossible to prevent the unforeseeable factors of weather and climate which can inflict ruin on crops. But if an area has trouble year after year, chances are the land is not being used in the most efficient way. He hopes the work of the commission will correct that.

## News Roundup From Edmonton

By Ken Mason

EDMONTON—A new deal for farmers and a new policy on land, forest and water conservation may arise from a bill passed during the recent special session of the Alberta legislature.

That's the hope of Hon. L. C. Halmrast, minister of agriculture, who introduced and explained the provisions of the legislation, which is entitled a Bill to Provide for the Conservation and Efficient Use of Land, Forest and Water Resources in the Province of Alberta.

The main feature of the bill is a provision for the establishment of a special commission which will have power to investigate any phase of conservation and make recommendations to the government. It will place all conservation matters in the hands of a single authority.

The legislation has special significance for farmers, because one of the commission's first tasks will be to take a look at areas of the province where farmers seem unable to earn a proper living.

When the commission finds out why farmers can't make a living in certain areas, the bill empowers the government to do something about it. The farmers, of course, will have to give full co-operation if the program is to be a success.

Mr. Halmrast told me last week there are a number of areas where tax arrears are common every year. Tax arrears are the first sign of a submarginal area, he said, and it is this land which will undergo extensive study when the commission is formed.

As an example, he cited districts west of Wetaskiwin, where excessive rains have made it nearly impossible for farmers to grow grain crops in recent years. The farmers have been late getting on the land because of spring rains, and as a result crops have been ruined by early frost.

What is the answer? Perhaps,

## DAILY SERVICE

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